

United States Attorney Southern District of New York

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U.S. CHARGES BROOKLYN MAN WITH OFFERING CASH TO HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS IN EXCHANGE FOR SEX THROUGH AN ADVERTISEMENT ON CRAIG'S LIST

DAVID N. KELLEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, announced today the arrest of GREGORY SWAILES on charges that he offered cash to high schoolage girls in exchange for sex through an advertisement on the popular internet site Craig's List.

The Complaint, filed today, charges GREGORY SWAILES with using the Internet to coerce and entice a minor to engage in prostitution or other illegal sexual activity. Specifically, as alleged in the Complaint, SWAILES posted an advertisement entitled "Any High School Girls Here?" in the "erotic services" section of the classified advertising website craigslist.com, which read "If your [sic] a hot high school girl wanting to make a lot of extra cash let me know. Please send pic or description."

The Complaint charges that on or about October 20,

2004, SWAILES, via a series of e-mails, offered to pay a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, operating in an undercover capacity and posing as a thirteen year-old girl, \$200 for sexual intercourse. SWAILES allegedly arranged to meet the undercover agent for sexual intercourse the next day at a location on Liberty Street in Manhattan at 10 a.m. SWAILES was arrested when he showed up for the meeting.

GREGORY SWAILES, 27, of Brooklyn, New York, faces a maximum sentence of 30 years' imprisonment and a mandatory minimum sentence of 5 years' imprisonment; a maximum fine of \$250,000, or the greater of twice the pecuniary gain derived from the offense or twice the pecuniary loss; a maximum term of three years' supervised release; and a mandatory \$100 special assessment.

Mr. KELLEY praised the investigative efforts of the FBI.

Assistant United States Attorney VINCENT TORTORELLA is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the complaint are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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